

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of April 24, 2007

The Warwick School Committee met in Special Open Session at the Winman Jr. High School on April 24, 2007. Chairman Friel called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Christopher Friel, Chairperson

Lucille Mota-Costa, Vice-Chairperson

Bethany Furtado, Clerk

Paul Cannistra

ADMINISTRATION

Robert J. Shapiro, Superintendent

Victor Mercurio, Director of Secondary Education

Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

MOTION 2007-102: Moved by Mrs. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to go into closed session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5(a)(1) and (a)(2).

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m. with the following in attendance:

Robert W. Dooley, Director of Business Affairs

Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services

Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education

David E. Small, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Announcement:

Chairman Friel announced that there was a vote of 4-0 in Executive Session to ratify the Warwick Teachers' Union and Warwick School Committee Agreement dated March 22, 2007. Ms. Healey said there were copies available for the public.

Approval of Minutes of Public Session

MOTION 2007-103: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the minutes of the public session for March 13, March 19, March 27, April 4, and April 13, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Chair: There are insufficient members present this evening to vote on the following minutes of the public session: March 31, April 9, April 10, April 11 and April 12, 2007.

Approve of Executive Minutes

MOTION 2007-104: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the executive minutes for March 13, March 19, and April 13, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

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Chair: There are insufficient members present this evening to vote on the following minutes of the executive session: March 31, April 9, April 10, April 11, and April 12, 2007.

Approval of Transfers: Ms. Mota-Costa: I have a couple of questions regarding \$76,271 spent in March for transfers. As a point of information, I do have a concern over Warwick's policy allowing transfers up until this time. I see that \$15,000 was transferred from textbooks to other departments. Mr. Dooley said that is correct. Ms. Mota-Costa questioned that shouldn't this have been frozen. Mr. Dooley said the freeze was for March 31st, the purchase orders had to be in by March 31st. He said the policy used to be April 30th, and then changed to April 15th, now it has been moved up to March 31st.

MOTION 2007-105: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Friel, to approve the transfers.

MOTION PASSES (3-1)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Nay

Approval of Warrants:

MOTION 2007-106: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to approve the warrants.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Announcements:

Recognition: Alexander DiSantis, a seventh grader from Gorton was awarded a recognition from the Warwick Crime Stoppers Program.

Professional appointments:

MOTION 2007-107: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, that the appointment of Real F. Carpentier, electronics

technology teacher, step 10, be approved pending receipt of state and national BCI.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Leaves of absence:

MOTION 2007-108: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, that the request of Alfred Crudale, Foreign Language Department Head at Warwick Veterans, effective for the first semester 2007-2008 school year, returning 2nd semester January 2008, be approved.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

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Retirements/Resignations

MOTION 2007-109: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the resignation of Henry Tedeschi III, Special Education Department Head, Toll Gate High School be accepted effective April 27, 2007; that the resignation of Marcia Maynard, reading teacher on leave of absence, be accepted, effective last day of school; that the resignation of Kurt Van Dexter, art teacher on leave of absence, be accepted, effective the last day of school; that the retirement of Bonnie Robinson, principal John Greene Elementary School, be accepted effective July 5, 2007; retirement of Kathryn Healey, elementary special educator, be accepted effective the last day of school; retirement of Dana Hawkins, elementary special educator, be accepted effective last day of school, and that the retirement of Stephen Miller, science teacher, Pilgrim, be accepted effective the last day of school.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Coaching Appointments:

MOTION 2007-110: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, that the appointments of Nicholas Durand, Assistant Coach, baseball (Toll Gate) be approve for one year only; Courtney Gardiner,

Assistant Coach, girls' outdoor track (Pilgrim) be approve for one year only; and that the papointment of Lisa Carreau, assistant coach, boys' volleyball (Warwick Vets, be approve for one year only.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

“West Bay Smiles” program at Gorton and Aldrich

MOTION 2007-111: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the expansion of West Bay Smiles Program to Gorton and Aldrich.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Math textbook selection

Dr. Siesel recommended purchasing the Holts series and the AGS series for next year. Included were complimentary materials of 32 lab top computers and 32 projectors. There will be access to textbooks online and a CD version as well. We will have responsibility of the maintenance of the software. Ms. Mota-Costa asked for a purchase figure, and was told \$323,000 for all six schools.

MOTION 2007-112: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado, to accept the recommendation of the purchase of textbooks (Holts series and AGS series) outlined in Dr. Siesel's memorandum dated March 23, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

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Toll Gate Lady Titans RIIL Coop Waiver – request that the current RIIL waiver granted for Toll Gate to sponsor a Warwick Coop team entrant for a RIIL sanctioned Varsity Girls' High School Ice Hockey team be extended for an additional year.

MOTION 2007-113: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the waiver.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Recommendation Summary of Section B Policy Manual – Presented by Ms. Mota-Costa – The committee members were Maureen Callahan, Robert Fryc, Darlene Netcoh, Mark Banno, Shannon Hyle, Kayla Demeulenaere, Cherie Nickerson, David Rittner, Stephen Lowery and Lucille Mota-Costa. Ms. Mota-Costa said she would like to present this evening a summary of the committee recommendations. The policy will be presented with strike outs and additions at another time, but this was a review for consideration by the Committee. The following sections to be changed were BA (Committee Operational Goals) BB (School Committee Legal Status), including BBAA, BBCC, BBF, BBFA; BC (Organization of the Committee) including BCA, BCD, BCF, BDA, BDB, BDC, BDDDB, BDDC, BDDG, BDDH; BF (Committee Policy Development) including BFC, BFD, BFE, BFF, BFG, BHA.

Bids/Change Orders:

MOTION 2007-114: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, that the bid for new fire alarm systems be awarded to James J. O'Rourke, Inc. in the amount of \$252,900 as per bid tabulation – contingent upon bond funds being available and fire code changes.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa – Aye

MOTION 2007-115: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, that the bid for router tables and accessories be awarded to Technical Ed Solutions, in the amount of \$34,455, as per bid tabulation.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Waste collection: Mr. Dooley said that the waste collection bid awarded to We Dispose LLC was for one year only since the city was studying the possibility of having the city trucks collect the school departments waste. Mr. Picozzi has advised the city is still interested but they need additional time to study. Mr. Dooley said, he recommended that the School Committee extend the bid award for waste collection to We Dispose at a 3% rate increase for the 2007-08 year. It was also noted that Mr. Piccozzi said that the city would have to buy an additional truck.

MOTION 2007-116: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, that the bid for waste collection be awarded to WeDispose at a 3% rate increase for the 2007-2008 year.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

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MOTION 2007-117: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Ms. Furtado, that the contract for paper towels and bath tissue be awarded to Banner Systems at the following unit prices based on the state's bid award for the 32007-08 year: paper towels (\$18.98 case) bath tissue (\$32.95 case).

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

MOTION 2007-118: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, that the bid for elevator improvements be awarded to Atlantic Elevator (\$116,660) and Eagle Elevator (\$89,165) for a total of \$205,825 as per bid tabulation, contingent upon bond funds being available.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Information and Proposals: school committee members: Ms. Mota-Costa requested the Committee review the policy recommendations for the June meeting. Mr. Cannistra asked that Mr. Picozzi be contacted regarding a realistic time for waste study. He also requested that a new method of transfers come before us.

Next Meeting: May 1, 2007 (regular and budget meeting)

Public comment: Mr. Ginolfi questioned the school calendar which has August 28th scheduled for teacher orientation and August 29th for staff development day, saying the contract says teachers shall report for a full day the day before school opens for students, suggesting that the calendar has to be changed. Ms. Healey responded that the calendar had been sent to your Union and approved by the School Committee. Mr. Landri asked about “Coach” buses not school buses that recently took students to a game. Mr. Dooley said that First Student was short drivers and subcontracted out. This was not a money issue, it would cost the exact same amount as if First Student provided their own buses. Betty O’Leary also remarked about “Coach”, “Flagship” and “Peter Pan” buses being sent instead of First Student. She said there is a severe school bus driver shortage, and hoped that everyone would think about this transportation nightmare. She also remarked that Coach bus drivers are not required to have a complete BCI check. She said that First

Student mechanics are driving buses, not fixing them.

MOTION 2007- Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to adjourn.

MOTION PASSES (4-0)

John F. Thompson - Aye Robert A. Cushman – Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – absent Christopher E. Friel – Aye

Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Bethany Furtado, Clerk

Betsey Snipes, Secretary